

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A cam mechanism includes a cam ring, and a linearly movable frame movable supporting an optical element. The cam grooves are located at different positions in the 5 optical axis direction and which trace a same reference cam diagram. All cam grooves are partial cam grooves each having at least one end opening at at least one of opposite ends of the cam ring, so as not to include an entire portion of the reference cam diagram. Cam followers are located 10 at different positions at least in the optical axis direction and are respectively engageable in the cam grooves. At least one of the cam followers remains engaged in a corresponding cam groove while at least one of the other of the cam followers comes out of the end 15 opening and is disengaged therefrom when the linearly movable frame moves to movement limit in the optical-axis direction.